

Reply to Office action of November 4, 2004
Attorney Docket No. 1627/US (formerly 11233.00)
Express Mail No. EV 423 778 426 US

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this Amendment and Response claims 1-6, 8-20, and 22-50 are pending in the present application. Following entry, claims 1-20, 22-33, and 50 will be pending.

Claims 34-49

The Examiner withdrew claims 34-49 as being directed to a non-elected invention, alleging these claims are directed to a subcombination useable with the originally-set forth invention of claim 11. The assignee hereby withdraws these claims, but reserves the right to prosecute the claims in a later-filed continuation or divisional application.

Objections to the Disclosure

The Examiner objected to claims 11 and 50, alleging a parenthesis was incorrectly placed in each claim after the word “flow.” The Assignee has amended claims 11 and 50 to remove this typographical error. The Assignee respectfully submits these amendments to claims 11 and 50 were made for a reason substantially unrelated to patentability. The Assignee respectfully submits these amendments adequately respond to the Examiner’s objection.

Amendments to Claim 33

Claim 33 originally depended from claim 21, which was cancelled in a prior amendment. The Assignee has amended claim 33 to depend from claim 22 and eliminate language redundant to that in claim 11, since claim 22 depends from claim 11.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 8-10 and 50 under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded by the Assignee as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner objected to claim 8 as depending from itself, and claim 50 as reciting elements redundant to those set forth in base claim 11. Finally, the Examiner rejected claims 9 and 10 as depending from rejected claim 8.

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First, the Assignee has amended claim 8 to properly depend from claim 1. The Assignee has amended claim 50 to delete these redundancies. With the amendments to claims 8 and 50, the Assignee respectfully submits the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 to claims 8-10 and 50 are adequately addressed. Accordingly, the Assignee respectfully submits claims 8-10 and 50 are in condition for allowance, as set forth by the Examiner in paragraph 6 of the present Office action. Accordingly, the Assignee respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw her rejection and allow claims 8-10 and 50 are patentable.

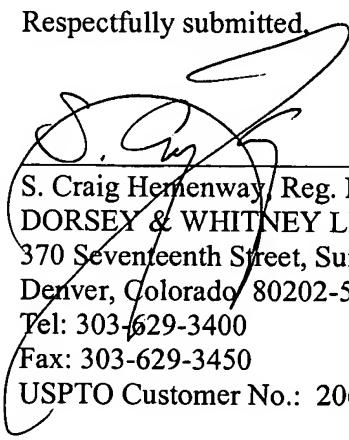
Conclusion

The Assignee thanks the Examiner for her thorough review of the claims in this application. Further, the Assignee respectfully submits claims 1-20, 22-33 and 50 are the sole claims still pending in the application, and are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Assignee respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance as soon as practicable.

This Amendment and Response is being submitted prior to January 4, 2005, and accordingly the Assignee respectfully requests issuance of an Advisory Action in the event of Notice of Allowance is not appropriate. The Assignee further respectfully submits no petitions or fees are due with this filing. However, should any petitions or fees be necessary, please consider this a request therefore and authorization to charge Deposition Account No. 04-1415 accordingly. Should any issues remain the Examiner believes may be settled by a telephone conference, she is urged to contact the undersigned at 303-629-3400.

Dated: 14 DECEMBER 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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